## Abbeville County Council Council Workshop March 29, 2004 Minutes

PRESENT: Chairman Thomas, Councilman Calhoun, Councilman Gunnells, Councilman Forrester, Councilman Walker, Councilman Norris and County Director Burns

ABSENT: Councilman Brown

Chairman Thomas called the workshop to order.

Chairman Thomas then stated for the record that both the Press and Banner and the Index Journal were notified of the meeting and that the meeting was posted on County Buildings as required by the Freedom of Information Act.

County Director Burns began by giving County Council an overview of some of the additional expenditures that will be necessary in FY 04-05. They include increases in health insurance, workers compensation and tort/liability insurance. They also include increases in personnel costs due to pay raises given in FY 03-04.

Director Burns then gave an overview of some of the many capital item requests submitted by Department heads and the costs associated with the purchases. Some of the items are a fire truck, ambulances, heavy equipment, etc.

Director Burns then gave an overview of the additional personnel requested by department heads. Among those requested are paramedics, maintenance personnel, etc.

Finally the timeframe for the budget was discussed. First reading of the budget will be held the first Council meeting in May. Second reading will be held the second Council meeting in May. A public hearing will be held between second and third reading. Third reading will be held the first meeting in June.

Director Burns informed Council that this is going to be a lean fiscal year, and that difficult decisions will have to be made throughout the process.

There being no further discussion the workshop ended.